

OC-M77-615
26 September 1977

MEMORANDUM FOR: OC Executive Board Members

FROM: [REDACTED]
Director of Communications

SUBJECT: Agenda for Executive Board Meeting (U)

(C) A meeting of the OC Executive Board is scheduled for 4 October 1977 (Tuesday) at 1000 hours in the D/CO Conference Room [REDACTED]. The agenda will consist of the following items:

1. AXANET Transmission Systems

a. Multi-Channel Versus Single Channel Common Users Backup for AXANET.

b. Use of High Frequency Radio Beyond 1985.
(Handouts to be provided)

2. OC's Role in TV Intelligence Dissemination.
(See Attachment)

Attachment As Stated

Distribution:

- 1 - D/CO w/att.
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- 1 - C/OC-O w/att.
- 1 - C/OC-E w/att.
- 1 - C/OC-CMD w/att.
- 1 - C/OC-CS w/att.
- 1 - C/OC-P&B w/att.
- 1 - C/OC-O [REDACTED] w/att.
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29 August 1977

MEMORANDUM FOR: Acting Deputy Director of Central Intelligence

25X1A FROM : [REDACTED]
Chairman, Presentational Means
Steering Panel

SUBJECT : Study of TV in CIA

1. Earlier this year Hank Knoche asked the CIA Presentational Means Steering Panel to undertake a study of television in the Agency. The results of this study are attached.

2. In preparing this study we talked to those most familiar with the subject throughout the Agency and contacted all components with any significant video or movie production capability. We also contracted for the services of an expert at [REDACTED] and got his opinion on Agency equipment, based on actual inventory lists.

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3. Since you have studied this problem from time to time over the years, our findings will come as no surprise. Much of the Agency's equipment is obsolescent; no component, with the exception of the Office of Communications, has an up-to-date, integrated television production system; some progress has been made in the production of training aids, but television applications in the field of management communications, briefings, and the presentation of finished intelligence have been minimal.

4. The Presentational Means Steering Panel recommends that the Agency move to establish a fully equipped and professionally staffed television center, primarily for the production of finished intelligence, along the lines recommended by the DDI Publications and Presentations Group. The Steering Panel also recommends that the small, specialized television units that have developed in offices such as OTR

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SUBJECT: Study of TV in CIA

and OC continue to function in a decentralized role with assistance being provided as needed by the larger video center. We further recommend that the Steering Panel undertake a detailed study to establish a more comprehensive set of goals and objectives for the future use and management of TV and motion picture facilities in the Agency.

5. As you know, the prospects for establishing a video center are very uncertain at present. The DDI FY-79 budget proposal to this effect was eliminated during the PRC review. A FY-77 unfunded requirement has been submitted, but to my knowledge no action has been taken on that request.

6. In conclusion, the Steering Panel would like to note that the Agency is sorely out of date in the presentational field. DIA and NSA both have modern facilities available to them--DIA, in fact, has produced several TV briefing tapes that have been made available to the White House. The Agency's initial efforts have been undertaken with ORD funding using external contractor facilities and production assistance.

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Att:
TV Study

STUDY OF TELEVISION IN CIA

Summary and Conclusions

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Television and motion picture equipment and facilities in the Agency are used for training, news monitoring, information dissemination, and intelligence presentations. With the notable exception of facilities of the Office of Communications [redacted] Agency television equipment is of low professional quality and production capabilities are severely limited. In the case of motion pictures, the Agency once had a significant production capability and vestiges of this capability remain in the Office of Training and the Printing and Photography Division.

In a study of Agency television and motion picture equipment prepared by a contractor for this report, it was noted that:

- Much of our equipment is obsolete, of sub-standard quality, and well-behind times.
- There is considerable incompatibility among various types of equipment within offices.
- Nowhere in the Agency, with the single exception of the Office of Communications, does there exist a television or motion picture activity established as a whole, interrelated system.

Offices that currently have some production or processing capability in either television or motion pictures (OC, OTR, OCR, P&PD/OL and ODP) have only limited plans for expansion or modernization. The major innovation in the offing is the new Video Center for Intelligence Production that has been proposed by the DDI Publications and Presentations Group, based on a concept advanced by the Office of Research and Development. This video center would provide for both the experimental development and the operational use of professional quality video for the production of finished intelligence presentations.

It is evident from this study that most decisions within the Agency regarding television and motion picture

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applications, as well as related equipment and personnel decisions, have been largely left to the initiative of individual components in the various Directorates. Under this decentralized approach some notable progress has been made, particularly in the production of training aids, but applications related to management communications, briefings, and the presentation of finished intelligence have been minimal. Another consequence of the decentralized approach has been that in most instances the production requirements of individual components have not been sufficient to justify the purchase of a full range of high-quality equipment or the establishment of a staff of professionally trained people.

Reflecting these findings, the Presentational Means Panel feels that if the Agency is to make major strides forward in the presentational field, it must take certain steps as reflected in the following recommendations:

- A fully equipped and professionally staffed television production center should be established. Such a center should be designed primarily for the production of finished intelligence along the lines proposed by the DDI Publications and Presentations Group (see the appendix).
- Specialized television units presently operating in other components, such as OTR and OC, should continue to operate in a decentralized fashion with assistance being provided as needed by the larger video center.

The Panel also believes that a more thorough study should be undertaken by the Presentational Means Steering Panel to explore:

- the specific objectives and needs of each component for the use of television and film,
- the advisability of, and specific recommendations for, certain programs such as central coordination of video equipment purchases, maintenance of an up-to-date inventory of equipment and personnel

skills, monitoring of television production activities throughout the Agency, and the establishment of some central authority charged with responsibility for central coordination of Agency television activities.

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